


10-31-1973

A Mark Twain Production

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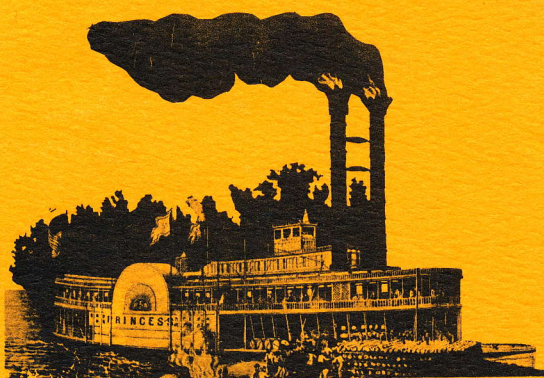
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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS

A
MARK TWAIN
PRODUCTION



LITTLE THEATRE

October 31, November 1, 2 and 3

8:15 p.m.

High above the Mississippi River at Hannibal, Missouri, stands a bronze statue of Samuel Langhorne Clemens, known to the world as Mark Twain. The face is looking out toward Turtle Island, which played an important part in his two great classics of boy life, TOM SAWYER and HUCKLEBERRY FINN. At the base of the statue is inscribed: "His religion was humanity and the whole world mourned for him when he died." Mark Twain reminds us of certain other Americans: Franklin for his shrewd humor and his unaffectedness; Whitman for his buoyancy, his democracy, and his Americanism; Lincoln for his Western background, his sincerity and his unliterary quality.

Samuel Clemens was born in the small village of Florida, Missouri in 1835. His family moved to Hannibal, Missouri four years later. He was a fun loving boy, not fond of study, but active in mind and body. His family was extremely poor and his father died when he was twelve years old. He was then apprenticed to a printer to help support the family. By the time he was 22, Clemens had seen most of the country having worked his way as a printer.

Clemens loved the river and he once wrote, "When I was a boy, there was but one permanent ambition among my comrades in our village. That was to be a steamboatman." Clemens, like his comrades spent all his time upon the river and he was so successful in getting into the water, he had to be dragged out of it nine times before he was 15. His boyhood dream became a reality in the late 1850's when he persuaded the master pilot, Horace Bixby, to teach him the art of navigating the Mississippi River. This was the era of glory for the steamboat. Clemens paid Mr. Bixby the sum of \$500 for his education. His experiences as a river pilot were recounted in his book LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI. The origin of his pen name — Mark Twain — is an old river call signifying two fathoms, twelve feet.

With the beginning of the Civil War, Clemens went with his brother to the Nevada territory where he joined the staff of a newspaper. His trip by stage-coach, along with his mining ventures and frontier experiences in the West were related with due solemnity in his book ROUGHING IT, a hilarious composite of tall tales and incredible happenings. Another example of frontier humor was his book THE JUMPING FROG OF CALAVERAS COUNTY. When his newspaper sent him to Europe, his resulting book THE INNOCENTS ABROAD, shocked many by its hilarious irreverence for antiquities; but its real service, besides affording amusement, was to reveal the insincere worship of everything European which many Americans evidenced in those days.

In 1871 Clemens moved to Hartford, Connecticut. The years in Hartford were the best and happiest of his life. In his later years he wrote, lectured and visited abroad. He lost a fortune in a publishing investment, but regained it by a successful lecture tour around the world. He died in 1910, widely mourned and generally recognized as America's greatest humorist.

During intermission may we invite you to visit the art exhibit of Senior Art Majors Robert Bakke and Deborah Krehbiel in the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery.

As a courtesy to the actors, please do not use cameras during the performance.

A MARK TWAIN PRODUCTION

Directed by Allen Goetcheus
Set and Lighting Design by Harvey Campbell
Costumes by Jessie Rousselow

Presented by the Speech and Drama Department
and Trojan Players

THE PLAYERS

Paul Bruns	Laurie Carlson
Jay Cunningham	Sue Fisher*
Olav Haug	Jennifer Horton*
Allen W. Mathis III	Retha Martin
Robert Schobert*	Gloria Nussbaum
Monty Swetnam	Kathy Showers*

ACT I

From LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPIChapter IV
"Twain, The Epigrammatist"

From THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN
Chapter I
"Twain: Wit and Humanity" (Part I)

Letter written to R. W. Gilder in New York

Letter written to Rev. J. H. Twichell in Hartford

ten minute intermission

ACT II

From THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN
Chapter XI
"Twain: Wit and Humanity" (Part II)

From THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MARK TWAIN

From THE DIARIES OF ADAM AND EVE

Music Ensemble

Banjo Steve Amerson
Piano Sue Elsner

Our next production: THE GLASS MENAGERIE

March 13, 14, 15 and 16, 1974

*Denotes Trojan Players Members

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director Harvey Campbell*
Assistant to the Director Marilyn Jones*
Assistant Technical Director Don McLaughlin*

Basic Construction Lisa Barkman*
Jay Cunningham
Ron Dilley
Brad Moser*
Robert Schobert*

Flattage Construction Kris Blosser
Dave Chenot
Kim Cole
Ann Donovan
Becky Lane
Scott McBeth
Barb Nelson
Dee Porter
Laurie Robinson
Beth Rosenberger

Lights DEBI LEWIS*
Mark Cornelius
Don McLaughlin*

PropertiesKIM WATKINS*
Debi King

Make-up MARILYN JONES*
Sylvia Cameron*
Janet Graham

Costumes	Debi Daniels
	Carolyn Duckwall
	Stormy Manning*
	Luanne Pieschke
	Jan Rutledge

House KATHY SAKUTA
Lisa Barkman*
Kathy Block
Janet Graham
Pam Graham
Dawn Hurst
Nancy Jackson
Becky Nordin
Adrienne Pritchard
Joanne Rowell
Jan Rutledge

A SPECIAL WORD OF APPRECIATION to all those who have contributed services and articles for this production: Taylor University Dining Commons, the Music Department, Mrs. Carolyn Duckwall, Stephen Foster and, of course, Mark Twain.

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